

controlling a multicall,” as recited in claims 18-26, or a “terminal being capable of having a multicall,” as recited in claims 27 and 28.

Grube et al. merely discloses a dual mode communication unit that can operate in either a trunking communication system or a cellular communication system when the coverage areas of each system overlap. In Grube et al., the communication unit is normally operating in the trunking communication system, when an individual call is received or being placed via a cellular communication system, the communication unit switches to operate in the cellular communication system. Once the cellular call ends, the communication unit returns to operate in the trunking communication system.

However, Grube et al. fails to teach or suggest any multicall between a telecommunication network and an individual subscriber terminal in a telecommunication system. To the contrary, Grube et al. merely discloses a group dispatch communication in the trunking communication system, and individual calls in the cellular system. Thus, there is no indication of a multicall, i.e., two or more simultaneous separate calls to a subscriber unit.

Although, the Office Action referred to column 2, lines 1-5 in Grube et al. as teaching multicalls, that passage (and Grube et al. generally) merely refers to frequency re-use in a cellular system. In other words, same frequency channels can be re-used in cells of the cellular network, if there is sufficient distance between the cells having the same frequencies. However, this is a fundamental feature of conventional cellular networks, which has nothing to do with multicalls in the present invention. Therefore, Grube et al. fails to provide a multicall between a telecommunications network and an individual subscriber terminal in a telecommunication system.

Hoogerwerf et al. fails to remedy the deficiencies of Grube et al. because Hoogerwerf et al. merely discloses automated forced call disruption and the call waiting feature but fails to remedy the deficiencies of Grube et al. because Hoogerwerf et al. fails to provide a multicall between a telecommunications network and an individual subscriber terminal in a telecommunication system.

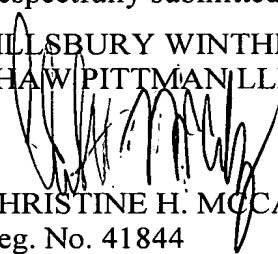
Similarly, Dee et al. fails to remedy the deficiencies of Grube et al. and Hoogerwerf et al. because Dee et al. merely discloses a method and system for call screening but fails to remedy the deficiencies of Grube et al. because Hoogerwerf et al. fails to provide a multicall between a telecommunications network and an individual subscriber terminal in a telecommunication system.

Based on the above arguments, claims 1-28 are patentable over the applied prior art and are allowable. All rejections having been addressed, the Applicants request issuance of a Notice of Allowance indicating the allowability of the pending claims. If anything further is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Applicants request that the Examiner contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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